

## Message Text

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53

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 AID-05 /086 W

----- 111394

R 201000Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0277

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 1215

E.O.: 11652: GDS

TAGS: PROF, EAID, SA

SUBJ: THE COMORO ISLANDS

REF : AMEMBASSAODR MENDENHALL'S LETTER OF JAN 16 TO  
AMBASSADOR AKINS

1. AMBASSADOR RAISED WITH ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER MOHAMMAD MAS'UD SUBJECT OF THE APPROACHING INDEPENDENCE OF THE COMORO ISLANDS. HE SAID OUR ONLY INTEREST IN THE ISLANDS WAS A NEGATIVE ONE, THAT THEY NOT FALL UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF RADICALS. HE THOUGHT THAT SAUDI ARABIA MIGHT SHARE THIS OPINION AND MIGHT ALSO WISH TO GIVE POSITIVE ASSISTANCE TO THE ISLANDS; THEY WERE ALMOST ENTIRELY MUSLIM AND BY ALL ACCOUNTS WERE MOST CONSERVATIVE. POPULATION WAS ONLY ABOUT 100,000 AND A VERY SMALL AMOUNT OF AID COULD GO A LONG WAY.

2. MAS'UD SAID THAT HE WAS SURE SAUDI ARABIA WOULD BE INTERESTED. HE TOOK NOTES AND SAID HE WOULD TAKE INTO THE MATTER.

3. COMMENT: THE SAUDIS ALWAYS REACT IN THIS MANNER TO REQUESTS FOR AID FOR WORTHY CAUSES. THEY DO NOT,  
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HOWEVER, ALWAYS FOLLOW THROUGH. THEREFORE, COMORIANS

SHOULD NOT BE HOLDING THEIR BREATH FOR SAUDI AID. BUT AT  
LEAST THE NAME IS NOW FAMILIAR. IT MIGHT BE WISE FOR A  
COMORIAN LEADER AFTER INDEPENDENCE TO COME TO SAUDI ARABIA.  
THROUGH HE NEED NOT BE RETICENT IN REQUESTING AID, WE  
SUGGEST THAT HE GIVE THE SAUDIS AN OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE  
THE SUBJECT FIRST. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT SAUDIS RESPOND  
MUCH MORE FAVORABLY TO PROPOSALS FORHELP ON SPECIFIC  
PROBLEMS AND PROJECTS THAN FOR GENERAL BUDGETARY SUPPORT  
WHICH MIGHT GO ON FOREVER.  
AKINS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INDEPENDENCE, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975JIDDA01215  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750060-1014  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** THE COMORO ISLANDS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, EAID, SA, CN, (AKINS, JAMES)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006